

# Honolulu Star-Bulletin

RILEY H. ALLEN

EDITOR

MONDAY, MARCH 5, 1917

FROM THE GALLERY.

## ZIMMERMANN'S PLOT.

Dr. Alfred Zimmermann, German secretary of foreign affairs, has been regarded as a friend of America—one of the few men in Berlin officialdom who hoped and worked for a continuance of friendly relations between the two nations.

So he was considered by American correspondents in Berlin, by many other Americans who knew him, and, according to hints, by the American diplomatic representatives in the Central Powers.

The exposure of his clumsy, brutal plot is therefore the more surprising and shocking, because it reveals him not as a sincere friend of the United States, but as an intriguer who did not hesitate, with fair words and a smiling face, to scheme against the peace of the American hemisphere.

But after all, Zimmermann's proposals that Japan should turn traitor to the Allies and that Mexico should join this league of despoilers is a logical sequence in the chain of shortsighted and discredited German diplomacy.

It is part of the diplomacy which counseled the violation of Belgium for military expediency; which advised the program of "frightfulness" on sea and land; which attempted to win the confidence of the world by murdering helpless non-combatants.

Zimmermann's action is part and parcel of the strangely obtuse reckoning of the Teuton official mind. When he said on Saturday that he saw no "unfriendliness" in his course, it was probably with no double-voiced meaning; it was probably no sardonic comment. The German foreign secretary doubtless spoke the truth. He saw no unfriendliness, he could see no hostility, in such a plot, justifying his scheming on the ground that it would only be carried out in event of war. His attitude is that now-familiar attitude of the German official who justifies any act if done in the name of his country and his kaiser. That the well-considered opinion of the world has outlawed such an attitude appears to make not the slightest difference inside the "iron ring."

Nevertheless, Zimmermann will probably be held by his government to have blundered—because his plot was exposed. And for this exposure he is likely to pay the penalty that von Jagow paid when that astute foreign secretary failed to purchase Russia a few months ago. Von Jagow's plot to wean Russia from the Entente group—corrupt the soul of the Czar's government—failed and the Duma exposed him. He was "allowed to retire" with a convenient ailment and a couple of decorations. Not improbably Zimmermann's health will also begin to suffer.

## THE PATH TO PEACE.

FROM DAILY FINANCIAL AMERICA.

Those who desire to gain as clear an idea as possible, under complex and confusing conditions, of matters pertaining to the war, should bear in mind that Germany is today conducting on a larger and more vigorous scale than ever before a campaign of publicity deliberately intended to distort and conceal her actual situation and purposes.

Not a single means is being neglected by Germany to induce the world to forget her crimes of the past two and half years and to hide the fact of her inability to sustain many further sacrifices for the prosecution of the war. She realizes that if she can but partly succeed in this effort, she will have substantially fortified her power to deal with the Allies and the world on a selfish basis.

It is to be remembered, in the patent effort of Berlin to blur the memory and vision of the so-called neutral world, that Germany's performances of the past two and half years towards Belgium, towards non-combatants and neutrals, offer nothing to indicate the sincerity of any of her present moves. She has violated treaties, murdered innocents, broken the recognized rules of warfare, flouted promises to nations not engaged in the war, and in every conceivable way revealed beyond all question her deep-seated intention to do nothing which will not serve her own selfish and criminal purposes.

Now, when we speak thus of Germany, we mean the Kaiser and the militaristic group, which are responsible for the war and the manner in which it has been conducted in the name of Germany. Not for a moment do we believe that the German public, heroically united though it be in the prosecution of the conflict, would countenance the actions of its leaders as indicated above if that public could but gain an adequate view of the truth of the past and present situation. We believe that the German public, if aware of this, would insist that the German government seek to redeem itself morally at least to the extent of such action as would prove sincerity in efforts for a just peace.

Germany no doubt can gain neutral support, concerted and powerful, in behalf of peace, if she proves to the world that she desires nothing other than a just peace. The most efficacious means for proving this sincerity is within her own hand.

Austria is hesitating whether or not to follow Germany's lead. Judging by the corner Austria is now in, Vienna can't be blamed.

The president refuses to give the inauguration ball next March, so we suppose some of the fraternity boys in the Electoral College will just pull off a quiet little dance somewhere.—Boston Advertiser.

A good many people went to the Opera House last night prepared to disagree absolutely with the "reformers" who were to discuss the "redlight abatement bill." Knowing comparatively little of the bill, they felt it to be some wild scheme of a "holier-than-thou" group of men representing anything but general opinion.

An observer of the Star-Bulletin staff sat in the gallery and this is what he saw:

The great majority of men and women deeply impressed by the common sense arguments in favor of the abatement act.

The women particularly applauding the statement that the act aims to get at the vice-lordlord quite as much as at the unfortunate women in a life of shame.

Several groups of men who clapped their hands and stamped their feet when the sole opponent of the bill made his talk—and most of these men a few minutes later applauding much more heartily when another speaker pointed out the silliness of the excuses advanced for breaking the moral laws.

Four-fifths of the audience, to judge by the applause, favored the passage of the act; of the other fifth, about half gave no indication one way or another; the other half had some approval for both sides.

Possibly the most significant indication of the entire meeting was that numbers of men in the gallery who whispered or muttered jeers as the meeting began, soon listened with closest attention and toward the close began showing their approval of the argument that Honolulu should have this abatement law to help make it as clean in every section as it is in some of its sections.

In other words, the meeting was effective in meeting opposition sentiment. It was convincing.

## MARCHING ON.

The cause of prohibition, now before Hawaii as perhaps the most vital issue of the present legislature, is "marching on."

In another column today a correspondent refers to effects seen in Oregon. Below are a number of newspaper despatches giving an indication of the sweep of prohibition sentiment on the mainland:

SALEM (Or.)—Oregon's "bone-dry," absolute prohibition bill was passed by a unanimous vote in the state senate here today. This measure, has already been passed by the house of representatives.

SALEM (Or.)—Oregon is "bone dry" tonight, Governor James Withycombe at 4 p. m. today signed the absolute prohibition bill recently passed by the legislature and immediately it became law. No more orders for liquor, permitted under the previous law, can be sent, but mail-order houses in other states have five days in which to fill orders now on hand.

WASHINGTON.—The Alaska "bone dry" prohibition bill, already passed by the senate, was passed today in the house with a roll call after an unsuccessful fight to prevent its consideration.

NASHVILLE (Tenn.)—Governor Rye today signed the "bone dry" bill, which puts an end to all shipments of liquor as beverage into the state after March 1.

INDIANAPOLIS (Ind.)—The state-wide prohibition bill, which would make Indiana dry after April 2, 1918, was passed by the state senate today, 38 to 11. The bill already had passed the house.

CARSON CITY (Nev.)—By a vote of 31 to 5 the prohibition bill was rejected in the assembly of Nevada. "It was the opinion of nearly all who voted against the measure that it should come directly before the people, and it was thought by them if the bill passed the legislature that it would be signed by Governor Boyle and the people would not get a chance to vote on it."

The park superintendent announces that those much-discussed ironwood trees are dying, anyway. This ought to go far to console the conservationists who demand that they be saved at the cost of engineering efficiency.

It was fortunate that Ambassador Gerard's speech at the Berlin banquet so enraged the Reventlow press that the speech was called an insult. That helps the situation in France and England—Springfield Republican.

A serious movement is on foot in the South to reduce the cotton acreage very radically. So the wise man will do well to lay in this year's stock of pure imported olive oil before the prices goes up.—Boston Advertiser.

Carranza is quoted as saying there ain't no plot. Unfortunately nobody north of the Rio Grande will believe him.

One consolation if the congressional party does not come is that we will have \$40,000 more to spend on roads.

Some folks actually appear disappointed because the legislature hasn't stirred up a real row.

"Germany Will Fight to the Finish," says Herr Somebody-or-other. Whose?

Dr. Zimmermann must have gone to school with Dr. Dumba.

## Letters OF TIMELY TOPICS

THE PRESIDENT AND THE FILIBUSTER IN CONGRESS

Editor Honolulu Star-Bulletin.

Sir: What a wonderful phrase-maker is our President! True, some of these, as "too proud to fight," have been misinterpreted, but what a fine saying it is that the twelve senators who yesterday stood against his will "renewed no opinion save their own," and that blocking his will was "a contemptible trick." Perhaps Senator Hitchcock put it better—that they represent "nobody except themselves." What a perfect characterization of the leader La Follette, himself a nobody. He has forced himself against the opinion of all the nobodies in Wisconsin—wealth, culture, intelligence, political organization—into his present position, to which he has been just selected by an overwhelming vote. It is true that culture and intelligence have assumed to his side in Wisconsin, but yet in the main he represents nobody—save the common people. There is Cummins. Everybody agrees that the wise Republican leader of Iowa made a mistake in not taking Cummins in; he is able, sincere, indefatigable. He appealed to the nobodies of Iowa and now represents them in the senate, much against the "opinion" of Iowa. He represents "nobody" but the common people. And there is my friend Woods, whom I have known for more than 30 years, always chasing an ideal. He pursued one ideal in the Union Army 50 years and more ago, and when I saw him in August, 1910,

he told me that he and Hiram Johnson had been since April chasing another ideal in getting acquainted with the nobodies of California who elected him to the United States senate. What an infamous ideal these men stood for! Although willing to allow the President to arm all merchantmen carrying innocent goods, they took the infamous stand that America should not arm vessels carrying munitions of war, although those munitions were to be used for the praiseworthy purpose of furnishing the combatants in this noble, this holy, this righteous and necessary war, with which to kill not only each other, but women and children—infamous men, representatives of the opinion of nobody, certainly not the millions of American people, who directly or indirectly, share in the blood-stained profits of the munition traffic.

Why not abolish the Senate and the House of Representatives? Why not abolish the opportunity for a free discussion of principles fundamental in our government, and let the will of our uncrowned king, or rather his interpretation of the public will for the moment, in which it is claimed he excels even Roosevelt, be carried out without opposition? Away with the period for considerate thought, for reflection, for a comparison with the experience of the past, and on with the free play of impulse. What we want is action, not thought, or even thoughtful action!

DAVID L. WITHINGTON.

## HOW PROHIBITION HAS HELPED OREGON

Honolulu, March 2, 1917.  
Editor, Honolulu Star-Bulletin.

Dear Sir: Apropos of your editorial on the Wets and Dries:

A few years ago Jacksonville, Ore., found the county jail too small to accommodate the county drunks, vagrants and criminals, so they put up a fine new jail.

Then the state went dry. Last summer a wild youth in a garage stole our camera, was caught and given three weeks in the new jail, and I heard there that he was not only the only prisoner there, but that for the three months previous the new jail held no occupant.

Doesn't this speak for itself? I also noticed that in Medford, Ore., all the tramps and street bums had vanished and at night the tawdry followers of the oldest profession had vanished from their usual haunts.

Hotels, saloons and clubs naturally fight to the last ditch against prohibition for their profits of 250 to 300 per cent vanish when the towns go dry.

But family life, business and bank accounts profit thereby, and a higher standard of decency is undoubtedly established wherever the god "Booze" is driven out.

I am not a prohibitionist myself, and I have always been accustomed to a moderate amount of wine, etc., but I voted dry at the last California election and am quite willing to give up my habits of a lifetime if thereby I can advance the welfare of my state.

Yours truly,

A. MALIHINI.

## APPRECIATION

Honolulu, March 2, 1917.  
Editor Honolulu Star-Bulletin.

Sir: The members of the Mochizuki Club, together with the committee in charge of the "Japan Night," which was given at the club's grounds at Waikiki on the 23d of February, 1917, hereby extend to you their sincere thanks for your kind assistance in making the entertainment the success it was.

The committee is more than grateful for the kind support given them by their friends, and can not but think that such entertainments will help to bring a closer and better feeling of relationship between the different nationalities.

Thanking you again for your kindness, and in which the Japanese residents also join, we are,

Yours most obediently,

DR. J. UCHIDA,  
Chairman, Committee of the "Japan Night."

## FAVORS ANOTHER LIQUOR BILL

Honolulu, Hawaii, March 3, 1917.  
Editor, Honolulu Star-Bulletin.

Sir: The liquor question in the territory of Hawaii is the most important one at the present time. The legislature is in session. The Republican party is in control of the legislature. Both the house and senate are composed of senators and representatives who are pronounced Republicans. On them the responsibility rests. They cannot shirk the issue. There are nearly 11,000 troops in the territory of Hawaii. Diplomatic relations between the United States and a European power have been severed. The war clouds are hanging over the na-

tion heavily. Crime has increased in the territory. The Hawaiian race is suffering from the evils of intemperance and the sole question is, what immediate and effective relief can be applied that is practical at the present hour. I have prepared a bill that is within the power of the legislature to pass and enact and which, if passed and enacted, will after the first of July, leave only five retail bar rooms in Honolulu and on this island. Five hotel licenses and five restaurant licenses may be granted under this act. This makes 15 in all and that is plenty. The bill also provides that before any license can be granted to sell liquor by retail in these islands, the mayor and chairman of the several boards of supervisors of the several counties must first recommend the issuing of such licenses so that if the chief magistrate of the city and county of Honolulu for good reasons, decides to withhold his consent, there will be no bar rooms on this island and so also if the several chairmen of the boards of supervisors of the several counties for good reason, do not recommend in the writing the issuing of any retail license there will be no bar rooms on the other islands.

Congress has not passed a prohibitory law. When they will, nobody knows. The prohibitory bill introduced by Senator Chillingworth and read a first time in the senate is contrary to the provisions of the Organic Act and beyond the power of the legislature to pass and enact. In my opinion, it is a worthless piece of paper over which time and money will be expended in vain and no results will follow except litigation and endless confusion. The legislature of the territory of Hawaii, under the grant of legislative power, either expressed or implied, has no power to prohibit by law the importation, manufacture and sale of intoxicating liquor but the legislature has power to regulate the sale thereof which I have done in this bill. It is a remedy for existing evils and I have forwarded the same to the leaders in the senate and house and it is upon them that I throw the responsibility for the continuation of the things complained of. The issue is a paramount issue to any platform adopted by the Republican or Democratic party. If crime increased to any greater extent than it did a few months ago, the people themselves would close up the bar rooms by force, which no one desires—so that, the argument that a useless liquor law can not be amended is no answer or excuse for the Republican party or the legislature. They must do something to prevent the indiscriminate sale of intoxicating liquor in these islands. Five bar rooms are enough on any one island, in fact, too many. I am not a prohibitionist and never will be unless the Republican leaders force me to take that position, and if the legislature does not act and reduce these saloons so that they can be controlled in the best interests of peace, order and good government, then total prohibition will follow and the congress of the United States will wipe out the liquor traffic and the entire use or the legal use of booze, liquor and the fine wines on these islands. Now is the time for the legislature to act; if they do not, the people will rebuke them at the polls commencing at the county election to be held shortly.

Pardon me for writing this letter. I am out of politics and it has been a long time since I have interested myself enough to write to the press concerning matters which are vital, but this question calls and calls loudly upon those who are interested in the welfare of Hawaii for action.

Yours sincerely,  
GEO. A. DAVIS.

## NEW CONSULAR SERVICE

(By Associated Press)  
LONDON, Eng.—In the reorganization of the British consular service

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which is now under way special attention will be given to inducing businessmen to enter this branch of the government. It is said that the war has shown it to be imperative in the government's interest to have in the service more businessmen with special knowledge of the requirements of British traders in the foreign ports in which they may be accredited. A committee of the foreign office is now at work on the reorganization scheme.

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